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Dated 26 September 2003

Patents Form 1/77

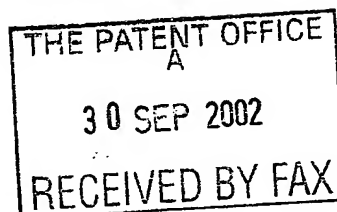
Patents Act 1977
(Rule 16)



30SEP02 E 1889-1 001559
P01/7700.000-022583.7

Request for grant of a patent

(See the notes on the back of this form. You can also get an explanatory leaflet from the Patent Office to help you fill in this form)



The Patent Office

Cardiff Road
Newport
South Wales
NP10 8QQ

1. Your reference

BKCD/IRJ/AD/HUG.1

2. Patent number

0222583.7

30 SEP 2002

3. Name, address and postcode of the or of each applicant (underline all surnames)

Julian HUGHES-WATTS
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Hithergreen
London SE13 5LZ

Patents ADP number (if you know it)

If the applicant is a corporate body, give the country/state of its incorporation

8474009001

4. Title of the invention

Betting on a Plurality of Roulette
Wheels

5. Name of your agent (if you have one)

Wynne-Jones, Laine & James

"Address for service" in the United Kingdom
to which all correspondence should be sent
(including the postcode)

Morgan Arcade Chambers
33 St Mary Street
Cardiff
CF10 1AF

Patents ADP number (if you know it)

1792002

6. If you are declaring priority from one or more earlier patent applications, give the country and the date of filing of the or of each of these earlier applications and (if you know it) the or each application number

Country

Priority application number
(if you know it)

Date of filing
(day / month / year)

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7. If this application is divided or otherwise derived from an earlier UK application, give the number and the filing date of the earlier application

Number of earlier application

Date of filing
(day / month / year)

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8. Is a statement of inventorship and of right to grant of a patent required in support of this request? (Answer 'Yes' if:

No

- a) any applicant named in part 3 is not an inventor, or
b) there is an inventor who is not named as an applicant, or
c) any named applicant is a corporate body.
See note (d))

Patents Form 1/77

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Betting on a Plurality of Roulette Wheels

Field of the Invention

The present invention relates to betting on a plurality of roulette wheels.

Background of the Invention

5 Conventional roulette games only allow players to place a bet on a single wheel. This can become rather repetitive for some players and if they want to win larger amounts then they must usually stake a correspondingly large amount of money.

Summary of the Invention

10 Embodiments of the present invention allow a player to place a bet on a plurality of roulette wheels. This can increase interest in the game and allow the player to win greater amounts without betting as large an amount as he would in a conventional roulette game.

15 According to a first aspect of the present invention there is provided a method of allowing a player to bet on a plurality of roulette wheels, the method including steps of:

 providing a plurality of roulette wheels and a respective plurality of balls;

 providing a betting area associated with the plurality of roulette wheels;

 allowing a player to select one or more of the roulette wheels;

20 allowing the player to use the betting area to bet on an outcome of spinning the one or more selected roulette wheels, and

 rewarding the player depending on the outcome of the bet.

 It will be understood that features such as "roulette wheel" and "balls" need not be conventional physical elements. Simulated or virtual wheels and

an outcome of spinning the one or more selected roulette wheels,

a reward device for rewarding the player depending on to the outcome of the bet.

According to yet another aspect of the present invention there is provided
5 apparatus for allowing a player to place a bet on a plurality of simulated roulette wheels, the apparatus including:

a display including a plurality of simulated roulette wheels and a respective plurality of simulated balls;

a betting area associated with the plurality of simulated roulette wheels;

10 a selection device for allowing the player to select one or more of the simulated roulette wheels;

a betting device for allowing a player to use the betting area to bet on an outcome of spinning the one or more selected roulette wheels, and

15 a reward device for rewarding the player depending the outcome of the bet.

The display may be remote from at least some of the devices, e.g. the game may be running on a computer communicating with a centralised gaming server over a communications network.

Brief Description of the Drawings

20 The invention may be performed in various ways and, by of example only, embodiments thereof will now be described, reference being made to the accompanying drawings in which:

Figure 1 illustrates a gaming area including plurality of roulette wheels and an associated betting area, and

The player can then select the number (or a set of numbers) of a slot on the selected wheel(s) in which he predicts the ball(s) will come to rest after the wheel(s) have been spun. He can do this by placing a stake on a corresponding location of the betting area 110. As well as numbers corresponding to the numbered slots 0 to 36, the betting area 110 includes locations which the player can use to bet upon the ball stopping in a slot having any one of the numbers 1 to 12; 13 to 24; 25 to 36; 1 to 18; 19 to 36, or in a slot having an even number or an odd number, or in a slot having a number appearing on a red segment or a black segment of the roulette wheel. These types of bets are well known and will be familiar to roulette players, but it will be understood that alternative betting areas allowing players to make unconventional bets can also be used.

A player can also bet using the "Lucky Sevens" feature. This may happen automatically when the player places a maximum bet or when he places a bet on all four wheels. Alternatively, the player may be required to indicate that he wants to play the bonus feature by placing a stake on the panel 112 or by pressing an appropriate button. Thus, the "Lucky Sevens" bonus game can be considered to be a "side bet" placed alongside the main bet.

The player can make more than one selection of wheel(s) and corresponding bets. For example, he can make four bets, each one being based on a spin of one or more of the wheels 102, 104, 106, 108. If more than one player is participating then the further player(s) make their own wheel selection(s) and bet(s) in a similar manner. After all bets have been placed, the wheels 102, 104, 106, 108 are spun. The wheels can be spun simultaneously and the duration of all the spins may be substantially the same so that all the

The display may include animated graphics simulating roulette wheels or could show a video recording or a video link to a real table having a plurality of roulette wheels. Touch screen technology or other types of well known user interfaces can be used to select wheels and make bets, etc.

5 Figure 2 illustrates schematically an electronic gaming machine 202 having a display 204 that can configured to show the gaming area. The machine 202 further includes buttons 206, which the user can use to interact with the display instead of or in addition to a touch screen; a coin slot 207, for receiving credit, and a payout box 208 from which the player can collect his
10 winnings.

 In an alternative embodiment, the machine 202 is a computer apparatus that can communicate over a network 210 such as the Internet with remote terminals, e.g. PCs 212 and 214. Thus, several players can play the same game. Some or all of the players' bets may be displayed on all of the screens.
15 Money could be bet using this embodiment by means of a credit card, etc.

9

a plurality of roulette wheels and a respective plurality of balls;
a betting area associated with the plurality of roulette wheels;
a selection device for allowing a player to select one or more of the
roulette wheels;

5 a betting device for allowing the player to use the betting area to bet on
an outcome of spinning the one or more selected roulette wheels,
a reward device for rewarding the player depending on to the outcome of
the bet.

8. Apparatus for allowing a player to place a bet on a plurality of simulated
10 roulette wheels, the apparatus including:

a display including a plurality of simulated roulette wheels and a
respective plurality of simulated balls;

a betting area associated with the plurality of simulated roulette wheels;

a selection device for allowing the player to select one or more of the
15 simulated roulette wheels;

a betting device for allowing a player to use the betting area to bet on an
outcome of spinning the one or more selected roulette wheels, and

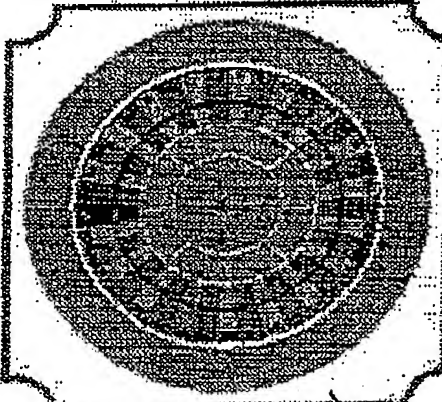
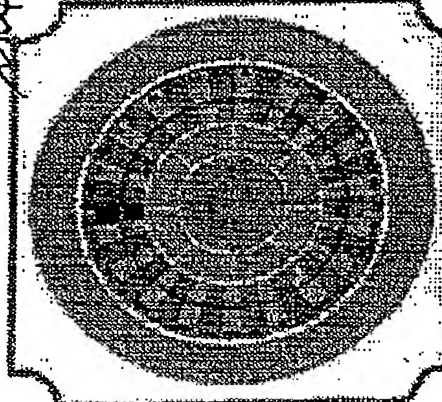
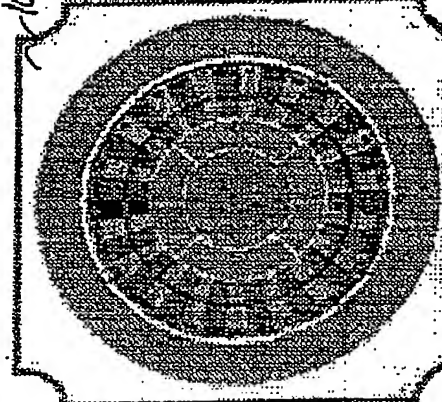
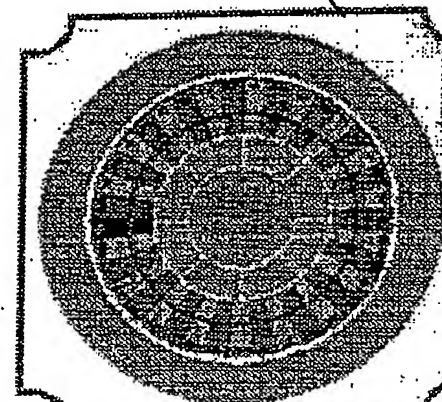
a reward device for rewarding the player depending the outcome of the
bet.

20 9. Apparatus according to Claim 8, wherein the display is remote from at
least some of the devices.

2
SEVENS
PAY
2500

3
SEVENS
PAY
50,000

4
SEVENS
PAY
250,000

00

112

1st 12												2nd 12												3rd 12																							
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36												
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36												
1-18												EVEN												ODD												19-36											



LUCKY SEVENS
23 OR 4 SEVENS
PAYMETER VALUE
WITH BET OPTION SELECTED

FIG.1

2/2

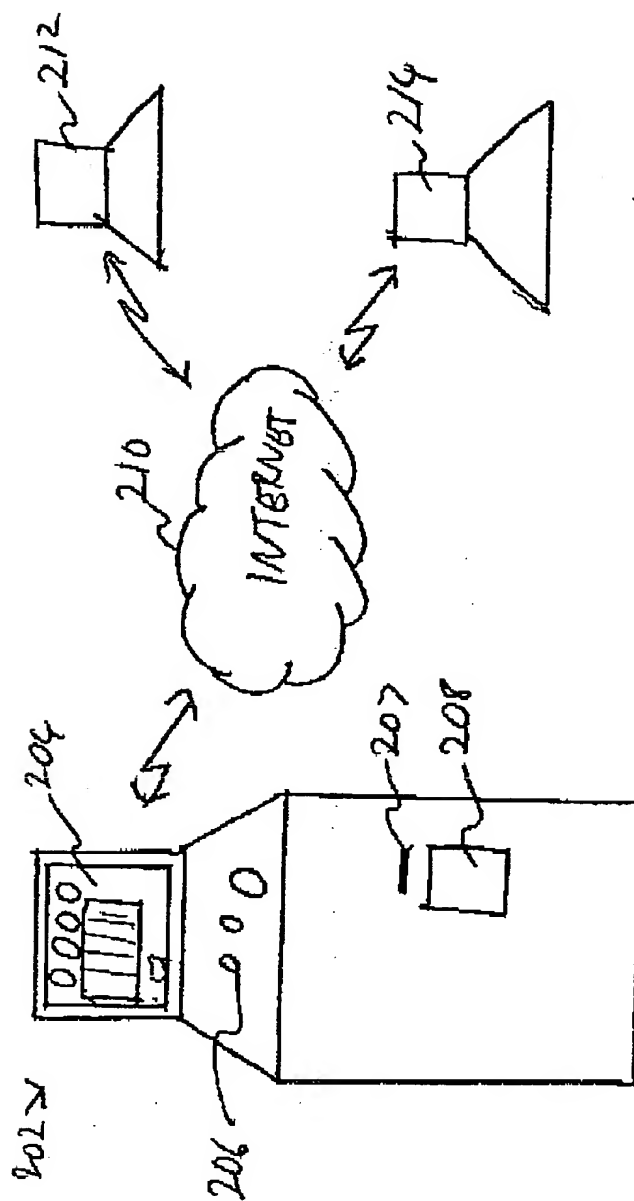


FIG. 2